

REMARKS

Initially, we note that "claims 28-31 are now allowable." (Paper No. 2 at 2.)

Claim 27 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 28 has been amended to place it in independent form. Support for this amendment is found in the specification at, for example, page 2, line 19 - page 6, line 2; page 6, line 11-25; page 9, line 1-2; page 10, line 23; and page 11, lines 11-14; in Examples 10-13; and in original claims 1 and 15. See, *In re Gardner*, 177 USPQ 396, 397 (CCPA 1973) and MPEP §§ 608.01(o) and (l).

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments are respectfully solicited.

Rejection under 35 USC § 103

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Siedle *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,296,433, in view of Welborn, Jr., U.S. Patent No. 5,441,920. (Paper No. 2 at 2.)

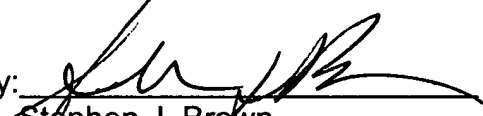
Claim 27 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, the rejection has been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

With the cancellation of claim 27, all claims under examination (28-31) "are now allowable." Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the rejections, and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 1, 2005.


Stephen J. Brown, Reg. No. 43,519

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Stephen J. Brown
Registration No. 43,519
BRYAN CAVE LLP
1290 Avenue of the Americas
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10104-3300
Phone: (212) 541-2000
Fax: (212) 541-4630